

THE THREAT OF ZIONISM

Senator Ralph Flanders made the following prophetic speech on the floor of the U. S. Senate on July 30, 1958. This speech is also printed on Page 14204 of the Congressional Record of the same date.

All true friends of the Jewish people will help to distribute it widely.

Mr. President, this one of the series of talks on the Middle East situation will be very brief. Its text is to be found in yesterday's news of the nearly successful endeavor to assassinate the Premier of Lebanon, Sami es-Solh, who was strongly pro-Western. Since the Western World refuses to recognize the paramount concern of the Arab world with the problems posed by Israel, any pro-Western statesman is a target for assassination. It was Nuri es-Said, Iraqi Premier, and his King, King Faisal, the day before

yesterday and Premier es-Solh yesterday. Who will it be today or tomorrow? This situation will continue so long as the western nations appear as the champions of Zionism. Any foreign policy which subjects our friends to assassination needs revision. Why do we not revise?

I call attention at this time to the fifth and sixth "whereases" in my resolution, Senate Concurrent Resolution 106, of July 18. These read as follows:

"Whereas the expansion of the population of Israel threatens an added seizure of Arab territory; and

"Whereas the overpopulation of Israel is largely financed by tax-free contributions from American citizens."

The Government of Israel will deny that it threatens added seizure of Arab territory. It is, however, established at present on seized lands. In Arab eyes that government, therefore, has no moral compunction about seizing territory. It has a record of seizure. What can be expected for the future except added seizure?

The critical element in the situation is the present and proposed population of Israel as compared with the territory and resources which it occupies. I have been told by *Zionists* that the aim is to pack 3,000,000 inhabitants into territory of 7,984 square miles, which is

smaller than my own State of Vermont. Were the land rich and well-watered like our Mississippi Valley States, it would still be quite a proposition to pack them in and provide food for them. The Jews have done marvels in Palestine in the way of getting the most of agricultural product out of an unpromising terrain; but even with the best they can do with a population of 3,000,000 that country will be bursting at its seams. When to this is added the natural increase in population, generation after generation, Israel becomes a loaded time bomb.

A direct responsibility lies at our own door for the development of this dangerous situation. When the immigration policies of Israel were directed toward making a home for refugees, it was proper to have those activities supported by tax-free American contributions. The present policies are not refugee policies. They are the policies inherent in the Zionist program—an ingathering of the Jews from all over the earth. Whether they are oppressed or not, whether they are needy or not, matters not so long as they are Jews—bring them into the new Zion no matter what injustices are perpetrated on the former owners of the land. Not one penny of tax-free American money should go into this project. In fairness to

American taxpayers, the Treasury must re-examine the tax-free status of contributions to the United Jewish Appeal.

I am aware, Mr. President, that the opinions and conclusions which I am expressing will be classed by the Zionists as rabidly antisemitic. That is far from being the case. I am not antisemitic. The Jews of this country owe me a debt of gratitude for my humble part in stemming a wave of fascism which was gathering momentum a few years ago. I am not antisemitic.

Mr. President, I am pro-semitic; but if they successfully persist in their present plans for an ingathering of the Jews of the world into an area too small to contain them; if they continue to ignore the injustices to the Arab landowners which are involved in their actions and policies so far; and if for the future they apply superheat to the pot already boiling in the Middle East, such a wave of antisemitism as the Jewish race has never faced will sweep, not only this country, but the world.

As a personal friend of hundreds of Jews; as an admirer and lover of the Jewish race, fully appreciative of its surpassing contributions to civilization in commerce, in philosophy, in literature, and in the arts, I beg of the Jewish people that they do not destroy themselves.